

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 118458
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07
L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02
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R 232010Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118458

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, AS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIA AD NATO
REF: A) US NATO 3592, B) CANBERRA 3606

1. AS AUSTRALIA IS A FIRM FRIEND AND ANZUS ALLY, WE WISH
TO BE AS COOPERATIVE AS WE CAN TOWARD AUSTRALIANS AND
BELIEVE NATO SHOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO THEIR INTEREST IN
THE ALLIANCE AND RELATED SECURITY ISSUES, TO THE EXTENT
PERMITTED BY THE TREATY AND NATO PROCEDURES.

2. WE CONCUR IN YOUR OBSERVATION THAT DEPARTURE FROM NATO
PRACTICE IN SUCH MATTERS AS DIRECT EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION
AS SUGGESTED BY AUSTRALIANS, OR DIRECT ATTENDANCE IN
SPECIALIZED NATO GROUPS AS REQUESTED BY AUSTRALIA AND
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NEW ZEALAND WOULD REQUIRE NAC DECISION. IN SUCH
AN EVENT, WE WOULD ANTICIPATE STRONG RESISTANCE FROM
SOME ALLIES, ESPECIALLY FRENCH, TO DIRECT NATO ACTIVITIES
WITH COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE TREATY AREA. WE WOULD ALSO
NEED TO CAREFULLY STUDY THE IMPLICATIONS OF SUCH DEPARTURES
FROM NATO PRACTICE OURSELVES.

3. IN ANY FURTHER CONTACTS WITH AUSTRALIANS, OR NEW
ZEALANDERS, YOU SHOULD INDICATE US WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE

ON INFORMAL BASIS ON NATO MATTERS. YOU SHOULD ALSO POINT
OUT CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS LIKELY TO ARISE FROM
QUESTIONS RELATING TO NATO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION OR
PARTICIPATION, EVEN IN LIMITED MANNER, AND LIKELY
OPPOSITION TO SUCH ACTIVITIES BY SOME ALLIES.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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